



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1520-6122

MONDAY
DECEMBER 20, 1999
VOL. 46 NO. 101

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York, prices were unchanged. Elsewhere in the country, prices were generally higher. The market tone ranged steady to firm, mostly fully steady. Demand was at least moderate to good, mostly good, and was best for seasonal buying interest. Supplies of the larger sizes were usually adequate to occasionally tight, and the remainder of sizes were about adequate to close. Breaking stock supplies were adequate from regular sources, and demand for additional product was limited. Light type hens were fully sufficient for immediate needs.

NORTH ATLANTIC In Philadelphia, the larger sizes were unchanged to 12.5 cents higher, and mediums were unchanged to 7 cents higher. In Boston, the larger sizes were 2-16 cents higher, and mediums were unchanged to 2 cents higher. In New England, prices were 1 cent higher for mediums and 5 cents higher for smalls, and unchanged on the larger sizes. The market tone was fully steady to mostly firm. Retail demand was generally good entering the week, best where feature activity was either planned or in progress. Supplies were about adequate to occasionally tight. Breaking stock supplies were adequate for the mostly fair demand. Light type hens were fully adequate for current slaughter requirements.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged. The market tone was fully steady to firm. Demand into all outlets was good, best where items were featured. Supplies were adequate to close.

MIDWEST Prices in Detroit and major Ohio and Wisconsin cities were sharply higher for all sizes. Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin were 2 cents higher for large, up 1 cent for medium, and unchanged for small. Prices in Chicago were 2 cents higher for extra large and large and mediums increased 1 cent. The trade sentiment was steady to firm. Retail demand was fairly good to good. Food service movement was mostly fair. Supplies were adequate to close for the larger sizes and in good balance for the lighter weight eggs. Central States net run breaking stock prices were unchanged. Trading and demand were quiet as most breakers worked off of existing inventories. Floor stocks were in close balance. The trade sentiment was steady.

CHICAGO Prices for extra large and large 2 cents higher, mediums increased 1 cent. Trade sentiment fully steady to firm. Retail and food service demand moderate to good, best where features were planned or in progress. Supplies in close balance to adequate.

SOUTHERN Prices were sharply higher. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm. Demand was seasonally good entering the week. Supplies were usually adequate to occasionally tight, and the larger sizes were often in the best position. The average price on Grade A or better white cartoned large eggs delivered to volume buyers in the Southern region for the week ending December 17, 1999, was 52.09 cents, 4.85 cents more than the week before, but 30.96 cents less than the same week last year. Breaking stock supplies were generally adequate for the mostly unaggressive demand. Light type hens were fully sufficient for current slaughter needs.

WESTERN Prices 19 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large throughout the region; medium 16 cents higher in California, 11 cents higher in the Northwest. The Pacific region inventory was 12% lower than last Monday with California down 7% and Oregon-Washington-Utah down 20%. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings light.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST CITIES			
Boston (Brown)	109-113	98-102	62-64
New York	75-77	72-75	52-55
Philadelphia	65-75	63-73	47-52
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	62-63	60.5-62	45-46
Jackson (1)	74-75	71-72	55-56
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	72-85	69-83	51-65
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	64-69	63-68	44-49
Detroit (2)	61-64	60-63	40-43
Major Ohio Cities (2)	59.5-65	58-63	40-45
Major Wisconsin Cities	65-72	63-70	44-51
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	80-81	75-77	58-59
California(Grade AA)(1)(3)	103	96	85

(1) - Prices reported weekly

(2) - Delivered Warehouse

(3) - Reported Invoice prices

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices 19 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large; 16 cents higher on medium and small. The California inventory was 7% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings light. Small invoice price 65. Ads in Northern California: smaller outlets- large dozen buy 1 get 1 free, 18 pack 139-199, buy 1 get 1 free. PRICES INVOICE, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

		RANGE	
JUMBO		116	
EXTRA LARGE		103	
LARGE		96	
MEDIUM		85	
PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.			
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA		NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	
	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	229-289	JUMBO	239-269
EXTRA LARGE	219-279	EXTRA LARGE	199-219
LARGE	199-209	LARGE	189-209
MEDIUM	187-199	MEDIUM	149-175

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending December 24, 1999 will decrease by 8 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending December 17, 1999 were 353,518 cases which was 25 percent above the prior week and 8 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	319,608	33,910	353,518
% change from the prior week.....	+28	+6	+25

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 17 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices were unchanged. Trading and demand were quiet as most breakers were working on existing inventories and not actively seeking additional product. Floor stocks usually in close balance. Trade sentiment steady.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 A.M., MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	22-25	23-25
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	10-13	

CENTRAL STATES AREA:
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT Trading was generally unchanged. Demand was moderate for spent hens. Finished sales were seasonal. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 20-DEC-99

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	9-19.5	10-13	13.25

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT Prices were unchanged to slightly higher when compared to a week earlier. Demand was fair for fully adequate offerings. Trading was light as plants were generally on holiday schedules. Undertone was at best steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 20-DEC-99

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8-16.5	8.25-14.5	11.10
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT- AM Dec 20,1999

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO CENT	SO CENT	SO Atl	5-Area Pacific		
Jumbo	Curr Wk	4.6	9.3	5.8	10.9	7.4	38.0
	Change	-0.7	0.0	0.5	-10.3	0.7	-21%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	16.2	20.0	8.8	20.9	17.3	83.2
	Change	-7.3	-1.2	-3.5	-4.9	-1.6	-18%
Large	Curr Wk	31.9	44.4	51.1	58.6	69.2	255.2
	Change	-17.0	-17.9	-1.1	-11.7	-15.0	-20%
Medium	Curr Wk	12.9	30.0	10.6	16.6	18.7	88.8
	Change	0.1	1.1	-1.1	-8.1	-0.3	-9%
Small	Curr Wk	2.0	3.3	3.4	6.0	6.4	21.1
	Change	-1.3	-0.8	-0.3	-1.9	-0.1	-17%
Misc	Curr Wk	14.3	18.9	8.1	11.3	5.0	57.6
	Change	9.3	-5.1	0.0	-0.7	0.0	6%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	25.0	41.6	13.7	20.0	42.7	143.0
	Change	-11.4	-16.6	-7.8	-4.4	-6.3	-25%
Total	Curr Wk	106.9	167.5	101.5	144.3	166.7	686.9
Percent	Change	-21%	-19%	-12%	-23%	-12%	-18%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	686.9	-18%	165
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	388.0	-18%	40
Total Shell Egg	1074.9	-18%	205

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 165 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

CANADIAN EGGS

MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RETAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 06, 1999

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	162	158.9	149.9	108.9

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 06, 1999 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	126	126	116	76

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— DAILY WTD AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DECEMBER 17, 1999

CURRENT LOADS	17.25	FUTURE LOADS	11.25	TOTAL LOADS	28.50
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CLASS	ORG	SE		NE		MW		LOADS	CLASS	ORG	SC	NW		SW		LOADS
		DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG					DST	ORG	DST	ORG	
GNR W 1	—	48.00	50.25	50.33	48.13	50.90	11.50		GNR W 1	—	50.00	—	—	—	—	.50
GNR W 2	—	—	47.50	49.00	47.00	—	3.50		GNR W 2	—	50.00	—	—	—	—	1.50
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00		GNR W 3	—	32.00	—	—	—	—	2.00
GNR W 4	—	—	25.00	27.00	—	—	1.00		GL W XL	—	—	—	—	63.00	66.00	2.00
GNR BR 1	—	—	59.00	—	—	63.00	1.50		GL W LG	—	—	—	—	63.00	66.00	1.50
GNR BR 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	.50									
GL W XL	—	—	—	—	—	—	.50									
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.50									
GL W MD	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00									

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES— WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 12/11/99-12/17/99

CURRENT LOADS	111.50	FUTURE LOADS	26.75	TOTAL LOADS	138.25
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		SE		NE		MW		LOADS				SC		NW		SW		LOADS	
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST					
GNR W 1	39.83	50.90	43.70	44.42	45.79	50.75	46.50	GNR W 1	—	49.56	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15.50	
GNR W 2	—	39.50	46.75	46.67	35.33	—	7.50	GNR W 2	—	50.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.50	
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	26.50	28.50	5.00	GNR W 3	—	32.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00	
GNR W 4	—	—	22.50	25.40	18.00	18.30	10.00	GNR BR 1	—	62.33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.50	
GNR BR 1	—	—	58.50	61.00	54.50	63.00	4.00	GL W J	—	50.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00	
GNR BR 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00	GL W XL	—	—	—	—	63.00	63.86	3.00				
GL W J	45.00	—	—	—	—	—	1.00	GL W LG	54.00	—	—	—	63.00	59.25	8.00				
GL W XL	—	—	—	61.50	56.31	—	4.75	GL W MD	—	36.00	—	—	—	35.50	4.00				
GL W LG	60.47	—	40.00	48.00	57.45	—	15.50	GL W SM	20.00	—	—	—	—	25.00	1.00				
GL W MD	—	41.00	27.07	28.71	32.25	45.00	13.50	NRBS - 48	—	25.00	—	—	—	—	5.00				
NRBS - 50	—	29.00	—	31.00	—	—	2.00	NRBS - 42	15.00	24.00	—	—	—	—	2.00				
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	28.00	24.10	30.00	7.50	NRBS - 39	12.00	14.67	—	—	—	—	3.00				
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00												
NRBS - 39	—	—	—	—	12.00	—	2.00												
NRBS - 36	—	—	—	—	7.00	9.00	5.00												

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

NUMBER OF CASES OF EGGS SHIPPED TO CALIFORNIA 12/05/99 - 12/11/99**Origin**

State	AR	CO	IA	MI	MN	MT	NY	OH	OR	UT	WA	TOTAL
N. CA	0	0	1,680	0	0	0	0	0	1,207	800	0	3,687
C. CA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120
S. CA	850	1,575	10,461	720	6,300	844	560	1,750	72	5,774	0	28,906
TTL STATE	850	1,575	12,141	720	6,300	844	560	1,750	1,279	6,574	120	32,713

SHIPPED TO MILITARY: 0

NEW ENGLAND

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
117-120	92-95	81-84	43-46	14-17

DETROIT EGGS

PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
69-72	60-66	58-63	38-43	28-32

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
44-46	26-28	18-20

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
70.82	59.16	45.82

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	12/13/99	12/6/99	12/14/98
PACIFIC COAST	65	91	66
LOS ANGELES	0	0	44

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS PRICES DELIVERED TO RETAILERS, GRADE A STORE DOOR December 13, 1999:

	CARTONS	WTG AVG
EX-LARGE	149-155	153.45
LARGE	143-150	148.24
MEDIUM	124-135	132.41
SMALL	105-109	106.29

Receipts from the mainland: 12/5/99-12/11/99
30-dozen cases 3,622

Receipts from the mainland: 11/28/99-12/4/99
30-dozen cases 4,427

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